

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /066 W

-----171450Z 079024 /44

R 171405Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6197
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2169

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT KE
SUBJECT: SUCCESSION POLITICS CONTINUE

REF: (A) NAIROBI 1403, (B) NAIROBI 1085

1. SUMMARY: RECENT PROBLEMS WITH TANZANIA HAVE IN LARGE MEASURE DEFLECTED PUBLIC ATTENTION FROM INTERNAL POLITICAL MANEUVERING IN KENYA, AND, INDEED, THE PACE OF THE MANEUVERING HAS SLOWED SOMEWHAT SINCE KANU MOMBASA BRANCH ELECTION ON JANUARY 31 (REF A). AT A TIME OF EXTERNAL CHALLENGE PRESIDENT KENYATTA GENERALLY BELIEVES POLITICAL INFIGHTING IS A LUXURY TO BE ESCHEWED. THIS NOTWITHSTANDING, POLITICS CANNOT BE TURNED OFF ENTIRELY IN MIDST OF KANU REVITALIZATION PROCESS. PRO-MUNGAI FORCES APPEAR TO HAVE GAINED SOME GROUND THIS WEEK AS RESULT OF WIN IN KANU NAROK BRANCH ELECTION WHICH WAS RE-RUN BECAUSE OF ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES FIRST TIME AROUND. MUNGAI, MOI AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ALLIES CONTINUE TO MOVE ABOUT COUNTRY MAKING DISCREET EFFORTS TO BOLSTER POSITIONS.
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END SUMMARY.

2. PRIOR TO FALRE-UP OF PROBLEM WITH TANZANIA, KANU ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL MATANO HAD NULLIFIED INITIAL BRANCH ELECTIONS IN NAROK (MASAILAND) ON BASIS ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES, AND ORDERED THEM REPEATED. IN ORIGINAL DECEMBER NAROK VOTE WILLIAM OLE NTIMAMA

(MUNGAI SUPPORTER) DEFEATED INCUMBENT JUSTUS OLE TIPIS (PROMINENT MOI SUPPORTER). TIPIS IS CURRENTLY ASST. MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS (MOI'S MINISTRY) AND KANU NATIONAL TREASURER. THE ELECTION IN NAROK WAS THE ONLY ONE INVALIDATED BY MATANO, A MOI SUPPORTER, DESPITE FACT THAT IRREGULARITIES WERE ALLEGED IN MORE THAN 10 DISTRICTS.

3. IN THE REPEAT ELECTION HELD FEBRUARY 14 NTIMAMA'S GROUP WON AGAIN. THE RESULT BOLSTERS MUNGAI GROUP WHICH HAD BEEN DEFEATED IN MOMBASA ON JANUARY 31. THE MASAI ARE NOW SPLIT DOWN MIDDLE IN TERMS OF NATIONAL POLITICS, SINCE OTHER KANU BRANCH IN MASAILAND (KAJIADO) IS DOMINATED BY MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, STANLEY OLOITIPITIP, AN ARDENT MOI SUPPORTER.

4. MEANWHILE, MUNGAI, MOI AND THEIR RESPECTIVE SUPPORTERS CONTINUE TO MAKE LOW KEY VISITS AROUND COUNTRY ON VARIETY OF PRETEXTS IN EFFORT TO BROADEN SUPPORT. IN LAST WEEK ALONE MUNGAI HAS BEEN IN NYANZA (LUO) AS WELL AS IN MOI'S POLITICAL BACKYARD IN KALENJIN-INHABITED REGION OF RFIT VALLEY. MOI HAS VISITED WESTERN PROVINCE (ABALUHYA) AND ELSEWHERE.

5. THERE IS STILL NO FIRM INDICATION AS TO WHEN OR WHETHER KENYATTA WILL CALL MEETING TO ELECT NATIONAL KANU OFFICEHOLDERS. IT IS REASONABLE TO EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT THE MEETING WILL NOT BE CALLED UNTIL
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AFTER TENSIONS IN EAST AFRICAL COOL.
MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, PARTY FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: NAIROBI
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770232/aaaabcef.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUCCESSION POLITICS CONTINUE
TAGS: PINT, KE, (MUNGAI), (MOI)
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